**Exploration of minerals entrusted to private parties**

*174. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the exploration of some minerals has been entrusted to the private parties;

(b) if so, what are the minerals whose exploration has been entrusted to the private parties;

(c) the names of the parties to whom it has been entrusted; and

(d) what are the details of those contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHANLAL FOTEDAR): (a) to (d) Exploration for major and scheduled minerals are carried out by Central and State Government agencies. Private agencies carry out exploration for minor and industrial minerals with the State Government's permission in a limited way and these are mostly confined to their leaseholds. Private agencies also carry out exploration in some cases for minor minerals like clay, sand, building stone etc.

**Entry of multinational companies to start the manufacture of food and othor drinks**

*175. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently allowed some multinational companies to start the manufacture of food and other drinks in India; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Some Indian companies have been permitted foreign collaboration in the field of processed foods. A list of foreign collaboration approvals recently given together with the details thereof are given at statement I. A list of MRTP companies which have been accorded exemption/approval under MRTP Act along with the details is given at Statement II.

**Statement I**

| Sl. No. | Name of Indian Firm | Name of the foreign collaborator | Type of Product | Foreign Investment/ Equity |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | D.C. Food Ltd. | Kentaur, AG, Switzerland. | Processed Food | Rs. 22 lakhs |
| 2 | Asia Aahar Ltd. | Nestec Ltd. | Extruded Food | Rs. 100 lakhs |
| 3 | Punjab Agro Industries Corpn. | Pepsico Inc. U.S.A. | Processed potato/grain foods, soft drink concnrtrates and processed fruits/vegetable products. | Rs. 3·59 crores |
| 4 | Ushta-Te Biotech Industry Ltd. | Starcosa Gmbh West Germany | Dextrose Monohydrate & Dextrose Anhydrous | .. |
| 5 | Sunsip Ltd. | Swedish Match AB | Processed canned & bottled fruits & vegetables. | Rs. 66·67 lakhs |